

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - US-CHINA RELATIONS

1. FOLLOWING EDITORIAL FROM SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST APRIL 19, TITLED "END OF A DIPLOMATIC HONEYMOON":
2. QUOTE: CHINA'S DEPUTY PREMIER, MR. TENG HSIAO-PING, FLEW OUT OF NEW YORK THIS WEEK, LEAVING BEHIND A VERY CLEAR MESSAGE: PEKING'S "DIPLOMATIC HONEYMOON" WITH THE UNITES STATES, AND TO A LESSER DEGREE, WITH THE EUROPEAN NATIONS, IS ALL BUY OVER AND IT IS NOW ALIGNING ITSELF MORE POSITIVELY WITH THE "THIRD WORLD."
3. SINCE THE END OF AUGUST WHEN THE TENTH PARTY CONGRESS WAS HELD, THERE HAS BEEN A NOTICEABLE COOLING TOWARDS THE WEST, AND WASHINGTON IN PARTICULAR. THIS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A CAMPAIGN WHICH PROMOTED AN UPSURGE OF ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING AND PRONOUNCEMENTS.
4. IN THE INITIAL STAGE, PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI'S POLICY OF DETENTE WITH THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN AND THE WEST WAS SEVERELY QUESTIONED. HE WAS COMPELLED TO SHIFT HIS STANCE AND CONDEMN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION IN THE SAME BREATH, A ROLE WHICH HE MUST HAVE FOUND EMBARRASING

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IN VIEW OF HIS FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARDS WASHINGTON SINCE

DR. KISSINGER'S FIRST SECRET MISSION OF PEKING IN 1971.

5. RELATIONS BETWEEN PEKING AND WASHINGTON REACHED A LOW EBB WHEN THEIR LIAISON OFFICERS RETURNED HOME TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR.

6. THEY WERE FURTHER STRAINED BY WASHINGTON'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. LEONARD UNGER TO SUCCEED MR. WALTER MCCONAUGHY AS THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO TAIPEI, AN INDICATION THAT MR. NIXON AND DR. KISSINGER WERE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT GOING FURTHER WITH PEKING.

7. THOUGH BOTH MR. HUANG CHEN, CHINA'S MAN IN WASHINGTON, AND HIS AMERICAN COUNTERPART, MR. DAVID BRUCE, HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR POSTS, THIS HAS NOT IMPROVED THE SITUATION.

8. INDEED, MR. BRUCE IS REPORTED TO BE TIRED OF HIS JOB BECAUSE HE DOES NOT BELIEVE HIS PRESENCE IN PEKING SERVES ANY MEANINGFUL PURPOSE.

9. THAT THERE IS A CN P TOP COOLING OF RELATIONS IS EVIDENCED BY MR. TENG'S ACTIONS DURING HIS WEEK'S STAY IN NEW YORK. HE CALLED ON MANY LEADERS OF THE THIRD WORLD AND POINTEDLY OMITTED DR. KISSINGER. ONLY TWO DAYS BEFORE HE WAS TO LEAVE NEW YORK DID HE ACCEPT A DINNER INVITATION FROM THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE.

10. CHINESE RELATIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN WORLD - WHICH MR. TENG HAS LOOSELY GROUPED AS THE "SECOND WORLD" - HAVE ALSO COOLED, FOLLOWING THE ANTONIONI AFFAIR AND ATTACKS ON WESTERN CLASSICAL MUSIC. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN ISOLATED INCIDENTS INVOLVING FOREIGNERS IN PEKING AND A DRYING UP OF TOURIST TRAFFIC.

11. IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, CHINA HAS PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE THIRD WORLD. MANY HEADS OF STATE AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PARTICULARLY FROM AFRICA, HAVE VISITED PEKING AND CHAIRMAN MAO HIMSELF HAS MET FOUR SINCE FEBRUARY.

12. THE CHANGE IN PEKING'S DIPLOMACY, AS INDICATED BY M
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GPCETENG'S SPEECH, IS BASED ON "THE REVOLUTIONARY TREND IN CHINA ITSELF," MEANING THE CURRENT ANTI-LIN PIAO AND ANTI-CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN.

13. THIS CAMPAIGN IS EXPECTED TO LAST FOR SOME TIME YET AND IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO ASSUME THAT MR. CHOU WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE HIS FRIENDLY POLICY TOWARDS THE WEST. UNQUOTE.
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